

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A PEM fuel cell which comprises at least two terminal plates which clamp a membrane which, apart from the outermost edge, is covered on both sides by an electrode layer, the covering of the membrane with at least one electrode layer projecting into the structural edge region of the fuel cell, product water in the structural edge region of the fuel cell for wetting the membrane, and seals on opposite sides of the membrane in the edge region arranged between the membrane and the terminal plates, and wherein the seals stop with the membrane.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled):

Claim 4 (previously presented): A fuel cell storage battery which is made from fuel cells which are electrically series-connected and comprises a stack of at least two fuel cells as claimed in claim 1 which are mechanically connected to one another.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A PEM fuel cell ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~ which comprises at least two terminal plates which clamp a membrane which, apart from the outermost edge, is covered on both sides by an electrode layer, the covering of the membrane with at least one electrode layer projecting into the structural edge region of the fuel cell, product water in the structural edge region of the fuel cell for wetting the membrane, and seals on opposite sides of the membrane in the edge region arranged between the membrane and the terminal plates, and including a reservoir on each side

of the membrane between each seal and the membrane, and wherein the product water is within both reservoirs.